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17 December 1952

THRU : Chief, D/I, ORR
Chief, I/Weapons
25X1A9a [REDACTED] /W, ORR

25X1A6a Comments on [REDACTED] Sitrep 43 9 December 1952
As requested by [REDACTED] 25X1A9a

1. A paraphrase of the Polish section of the report referenced above, and on which comments are desired is as follows:

Tractor production of 2880 in 1951 fell from such production in 1950 due to increased tank production. 300 to 500 tanks allegedly are to be built in Poland during 1952. Expansion of the following plants is conditioned primarily by projected armament production.

Huta Bailden, Katowice
Huta Kard, Waldenburg
Huta Ferreem, Begucice
Huta Falva, Swietochlowice
Huta Zygmunt, Lagiewniki Slasky

The first of these plants is to produce armor plate while the others are to produce Tank and submarine parts.

2. Our best estimate of tractor production for 1951 is 3810 as opposed to 3200 in 1950. These are small 40 hp wheeled one cylinder tractors manufactured at the Ursers Plant in Warsaw. During World War II and in the postwar period the orientation of the Tank industry shifted from tractor-automotive to locomotive-heavy equipment throughout the world. Any relation between the present Polish production of tractors and the implementation of tank production is indeed tenuous. Poland has never been able to support even limited manufacture of armored vehicles without a great deal of support from Germany or other nations. While the Soviet Union could certainly create Tank productive facilities in Poland if they so desired, we are convinced that it would be contrary to the best interests of both countries.

3. Stalina Huta in Labedy has received most emphasis in these reports of tank production in Poland. This plant is the former Hermann Goring Werke which although not damaged during the war was looted by the Soviets. It has since been refurbished and is engaged in the manufacture of basic steel shapes and sizes. This plant, together with those Huta listed above, and numerous others are believed to play a part in the maintenance of the 800 odd tanks and assault guns and other heavy equipment in the hands of the Polish Army by engaging in the limited job lot production of repair parts. In spite of these numerous low level jingoistic reports of arms production we do not believe that any full time production of heavy armament is now in process in Poland.

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